GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4820
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2007
PROMOTION OF RURAL HEALTH MISSION
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri ;Oram Shri Jual

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has drawn up an elaborate plan to promote Rural Health Mission focusing on better interaction among the stakeholders to make the scheme more effective as reported in `The Hindu` dated March 19, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any shortcomings have been witnessed in this regard; and

(d) the corrective steps taken by the Government to rectify the shortcomings?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PAJVABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (d): Yes Sir, the Government has implemented National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) throughout the country with special focus on 18 high focus states namely the 8 EAG states, the 8 north eastern states and states of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. The NRHM envisages overall improvement in the range and quality of hospital care, decentralization of planning and implementation of health programmes, and better intra and inter-sectoral convergence for effective utilization of resources. The NRHM provides overarching umbrella to existing National programmes of Health and Family Welfare. It addresses health in a sector-wide manner addressing the issues of sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and safe drinking water which are basic determinants of good health.Over the past two years, states have operationalised various strategies and launched many new initiatives to strengthen health care facilities at grass roots level. Detailed guidelines have been issued to states for various strategies and progress is reviewed regularly through meetings and field visits. Operational clarifications are issued periodically and technical assistance is provided as and when required so that the shortcomings, if any are removed and progress of the NRHM remains on course.